

# **Department of Community and Human Services**

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# Regional Human Services Levy Oversight Board (RHSLOB) **Meeting Summary** November 17, 2010 2-4 p.m.

**Greenwood Library** 8016 Greenwood Ave. N – Seattle

#### Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Co-chair Kathy Brasch at 2:05 p.m.

#### Roll Call

Board Members Present: Kathy Brasch, Kathy Hadaller, Loran Lichty Edith Nelson

Board Members Excused/Absent: Kevin Bernadt, Dorry Elias-Garcia

County Staff Present: Joel Estey, Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS); Debora Gay, DCHS; Laird Heia, DCHS; Jon Hoskins, DCHS; Marcy Kubbs, DCHS; Anna Markee, DCHS

Guests: Don Moreland, David Ramsay, Kate Slaminko

#### **Levy Renewal Planning – Anna Markee and Debora Gay**

Anna Markee, Special Projects Manager reviewed the steps of the levy renewal process. She shared the renewal timeline and discussed the need for the board's involvement.

The board members were asked several questions relating to the levy. The questions and initial responses of individual board members are noted below:

- 1) What has changed in our environment over the last 6 years since the levy was first voted on?
  - a. State, federal and county cuts have been significant and the need for Human Services funding is huge
  - b. We have a new county-wide strategic plan
  - c. We have many who are almost homeless due to the economy. We need to consider including those "on the edge of homelessness" in this SIP
  - d. The foreclosure issue is a problem
  - e. The issue of balancing geographic distribution of levy funds with needs based levy fund distribution
- 2) What key messages do we need to communicate about the levy?
  - a. The levy honors our veterans
  - b. The levy serves our vulnerable populations

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- c. The levy provides services that are cost-effective and provides long term solutions
- d. The levy provides stable funding in a highly changing funding environment
- e. Highlight the levy's connection with Housing First and the 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness
- f. Focus on veterans and homelessness. It's something people understand.
- g. We need to highlight areas of key cost savings a few key examples of specific projects will help
- h. We need to be respectful of the 50/50 split between veterans and human services. We need to highlight both veterans and human services needs
- i. It's a different time now; we need to be aware of a very different political and economic environment from when the 1<sup>st</sup> levy passed
- j. Show how the levy leverages other funds

## **Review of Meeting Summary**

The July 21 and September 15, 2010 meeting summaries were reviewed and accepted as written.

## **Co-Chair Report – Loran Lichty**

- Kathy Brasch is a reviewer in the Operating and Services Request for Proposals (RFP) process and Dorry Elias-Garcia has taken on the review of the capital projects.
- The Compass Veterans Center Opening was a great success.

# King County Staff Report - Marcy Kubbs, DCHS

Elections for board leadership will take place in January 2011.

#### **Old Business**

None.

#### **New Business**

Gary Kingsbury and Edie Nelson were acknowledged for their work on behalf of the VHS Levy at the North Urban Human Services Alliance (NUHSA) meeting (District 1).

#### **Petitions/Communications (Public Comment)**

Jon Hoskins reported on the recent outcomes report provided by the levy funded Family Treatment Court. They have a very high success rate.

# Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.